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Abstract of the Disclosure

A service request responding device A and a service request non-responding device B, which are network equipment, are controlled by a service allocating device C. When a user transmits a service request, the service request responding device A requests the network information collecting section (11) of the a service allocating device C to check whether the requested service should be provided. However, the service request non-responding device B passes the service request through the device without performing any processing. On receipt of a service the availability request, provision information collecting section (11) notifies both a setting device determining section (10) and a service competition section (14) of the request.